

ask the President to sign the treaty to ban the antipersonnel landmines.

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#### WHAT ARE A MINORITY OF DEMOCRATS TRYING TO STOP?

(Mr. HORN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. HORN. Madam Speaker, I have answered to these rollcalls on adjournment a dozen or more times in the last few weeks. It is an attempt by a determined minority on the other side. They are not the majority. The majority of Democrats have voted against these motions to adjourn, but 66 or so people, including the Democratic leader, have voted for these nuisance motions, and those other motions they can make under the House rules. What are they trying to stop?

They are trying to stop the appropriations process which needs time on the floor to meet the October 1 beginning of the new fiscal year. They are also trying to stop the 1996 campaign finance investigation process.

Yesterday, the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight was in a meeting all day, 10 o'clock to 6 o'clock. Serious deliberations were interrupted by numerous nuisance votes to adjourn.

Some people just want us to go home. They do not want the investigation to continue. We have 58 witnesses that are unavailable that we are trying to depose, and within the 58, 11 have left the country; 11 foreigners have refused to be interviewed by the police agencies in their country to give us evidence; 36 of the 58 have pled the fifth amendment and refused to testify.

It is time the Democratic minority get to work and quit the nuisance motions. That is what the American people want—whether they are Democrats, Independents, or Republicans.

#### CONGRESS MUST HANDLE THE MOST IMPORTANT ISSUE CONCERNING ELECTIVE DEMOCRACY

(Mrs. MINK of Hawaii asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. MINK of Hawaii. Madam Speaker, this morning I offered the motion to adjourn. I offered the motion to adjourn because I do not believe this House has the right to sit in session unless we handle the most important issue concerning the elective democracy in this country, and that is how we raise money.

All of us go out and tell our constituents we need money in order to finance our campaigns. We tell our constituents that we are governed by laws that say we cannot collect more than \$1,000 for every election, and the PAC's live under similar restrictions of \$5,000 for every election. And yet night after night we read about these people who

contribute \$100,000, \$200,000, half a million dollars to our party committees.

Who can fix it? It is only the Congress that can fix it, and we should not be in session unless we handle this. I call upon the leadership to schedule this item, and when they do, there will no longer be motions to adjourn.

#### SCHOOL CHOICE GAINING SUPPORT AMONG MINORITIES

(Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, the Secretary of Education believes giving low income parents the ability to send their children to a better and safer school is, "a simplistic world view and dead wrong." But recent polls show that school choice is gaining support in America, especially among minorities. A recent study shows that 57 percent of African-Americans and 65 percent of Hispanics support school choice. I am surprised the administration is coming out against such a commonsense idea. Secretary Riley made it clear that low income families will not be helped by this administration.

Now let me make it clear that we in Congress will continue to push for school choice. See, we do not believe the President should be the only person in public housing with the opportunity to send his child to a better school.

#### BIPARTISAN TASK FORCE TAKING THE BOLD STEP OF BANNING SOFT MONEY

(Mr. PASCRELL asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. PASCRELL. Madam Speaker, the efforts of the bipartisan task force have given us a very real chance for meaningful campaign finance reform. I am committed to seeing that this opportunity is not lost. It is incumbent upon this Congress that we honestly address the many flaws in the current system by which we finance our campaigns. Whether we want to admit it or not, the fact is that our campaign finance system is jeopardizing our credibility. We should not fool ourselves into believing that the problem is only the illegal activities that occur during campaigns. Quite to the contrary, the real problems stem from what is allowed under the law.

Madam Speaker, our bill takes the bold and important step of banning soft money. In the last election cycle we witnessed an explosion in the amount of soft money. Democrats and Republicans combined to raise more than \$260 million, and by 2000 it will be a billion dollars.

#### PRESIDENT THREATENS TO CALL US INTO SESSION TO INVESTIGATE CAMPAIGN FINANCE REFORM

(Mr. SOUDER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. SOUDER. Madam Speaker, it is actually hilarious to listen to the President threaten to call us into session to investigate campaign finance reform. Maybe for 1 day we can investigate his friends who are in jail, 1 day we can investigate his friends who have been released from jail, 1 day to investigate his friends who are indicted and maybe soon heading to jail, 2 days to investigate his friends who received immunity, one for partial and 1 for people who have received full immunity, 2 days for his friends who are pleading the fifth and unwilling to testify, and 3 days for his friends who have given him money and are now escaped overseas, and we could actually break this down by continent, or maybe if we have a few extra days, we can look into the impeachment resolution of the gentleman from Georgia [Mr. BARR].

What a joke. Did he think of this when he was raising the million dollars in San Francisco the other day? Before or after? I think it is a mockery of this process for this President to propose that we should be looking at campaign finance reform. He is the one with the problem.

#### WHERE IS OUR VOTE ON CAMPAIGN FINANCE REFORM?

(Ms. DELAURO asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks and include extraneous material.)

Ms. DELAURO. Madam Speaker, yesterday the majority leader stated that it is his "expectation that we will finally consider campaign finance reform," this fall. I have a message for my colleague from Texas. As of this past Monday, September 22, it is already fall.

The American people have waited too long. They know the system is broken, and they want it fixed. The people lose faith day by day in our political system.

Example: Tobacco industry gets \$50 billion in a tax break; tobacco industry, single biggest contributor to the Republican Party in the last election. I do not know any working family in this country that got a \$50 billion tax break. The American people understand this.

The other body, in fact, has scheduled the vote; the President wants to pass a bill. I ask the Speaker of this House, where is our vote? And, yes, my colleagues, every single day the minority will use the tool available to them, calling for motions to adjourn, until they bring up campaign finance reform. The American people deserve it.